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NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.  
REPORT FOR THE PAST HALF  
YEAR.

At the regular general meeting of shareholders of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, held at Tokyo, the report for the second half of the present year, namely, from 1st April to 30th September, stated that during the period under review the Company employed 101 vessels of its own, aggregating over 464,000 tons, both in the domestic and foreign services, and upwards of twenty chartered vessels. The cargo carried amounted to over 2,880,000 tons, and the passengers numbered over 152,000. The distance covered by these steamers totaled 2,016,000 nautical miles.

In North and South China there was a brisk demand for Japanese manufactures and products, with the result that on the outgoing voyages the vessels always carried full cargoes, the steady rise in the price of silver on the Chinese market having stimulated Japan's export trade. On the return voyages shipments were comparatively brisk, notwithstanding the disastrous floods in Tientsin and neighbourhood, towards the close of the term, and the effects of the remarkable advance in silver. On the Vladivostok route the shipments from Japan showed a decrease, as did also the transshipments of goods from Europe and India, while on the return voyages shipments were equally small. Passengers generally increased on all the routes.

On the outgoing voyages to Europe there were large shipments from Japan, there being a remarkable increase in the shipment of heavy goods. In addition to the regular liners, the Company employed twelve chartered vessels. For the shipments from Japan the regular liners had to reserve half their space, and the additional chartered vessels nearly the whole. Shipments from intermediate ports west of Shanghai were consequently small. On the homeward voyages shipments from England were comparatively small. The chartered vessels, on their return voyage from England, called at New York and steamed back via Panama Canal. From New York there were large shipments for the Far East. Passengers on the regular liners generally increased. Since April last a change was introduced, and both on the outgoing and homeward voyages the regular liners, instead of proceeding to London and Middlesbrough, were allowed to call at Liverpool. The regular liners *Yokohama Maru* and *Katori Maru*, of 10,000 tons each, were with the permission of the Tokyo authorities, transferred from the European to the American service in October. On 31st May this year the liner *Miyazaki Maru* was torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine in the English Channel. The war-time insurances on the ill-fated liner was yen 2,000,000, which sum the Company received on 8th September.

On account of the scarcity of foreign vessels on the American service, shipments from Japan by the Company's liners showed a considerable increase, and consequently these had to reserve the greater portion of their space. The shipments were so unusually large that the Company had to place five chartered vessels on the service. On the return voyage shipments during the early part of the term under review were abundant, but towards the close there showed a considerable decline. The Government of the United States and other articles of the embargo on fabrics and other articles. The passengers between America and China declined, but those between America and Japan increased.

On the outgoing voyages New York shipments from Oriental ports were considerable, and the Company had to reserve the greatest portion of its space. On the return voyages the goods consigned to Vladivostok were voluminous.

On the Bombay route shipments from Japan were numerous, as foreign vessels on the route diminished considerably. In order to fill this gap in the shipping the Company placed five chartered vessels, in addition to the regular liners. On the return voyage there were brisk shipments of Indian cotton, and chartered vessels of cotton to China and of cotton yarn fell off considerably, and there was a decline in the number of passengers. On the Calcutta route shipments were so numerous that in addition to the regular liners several chartered vessels were placed on the run, this being attributable to the steady growth of Japan's export trade to these countries. On the return voyages these were large. As a result of the scarcity of vessels and the consequent rise in the charterage, the Company made a larger profit than during the previous term. The net profit during the term amounted to Yen 28,981,000.

## PURCHASED PARDON.

Mr. Hsiung Hai-ling, Director of the Flood Relief of Chihli, has submitted a memorial to the President stating that Mr. Sheng Wen-hsi, the criminal in connection with the bribery case of the Tientsin-Pukow Railway, has offered to contribute \$100,000 for the relief work, on condition that the President issue a special Mandate pardoning his guilt, etc. The President has written a note on the petition that "I will issue the pardon on account of the benefit of the flood sufferers; but it can only be issued after the payment of the stipulated amount is actually made."

E. V. D. PARR,  
Superintendent.N.Y.K. AND ITS EUROPEAN  
LINE.  
VIA PANAMA INSTEAD OF THE  
CAPE.

It is reported (says the *Asahi*), that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, which has had thirteen extra liners on the line to Europe, has decided to run them via Panama and Colon instead of South Africa. The first advantage in using the route via the Panama Canal is the fact that the whole trip will take from a week to ten days less than via Durban and Cape Town. The second is that the securing of coal will be easier via the Panama route.

The change will contribute greatly in providing more accommodation on the Atlantic. Although there will not be any change in the shipment of goods to England, the space occupied by freight for South African ports can be allotted to consignments from America for Entente Powers.

South African cargo will be carried by the liners to South America and there transhipped.

## A LEVY ON CAPITAL.

## DEATH DUTIES IN LIFETIME.

A recent number of *Common Sense* foresees the possibility that the present generation "may be called on to accept a larger share of the financial burden of the war in the shape of a levy on capital, and prints what it describes as the simplest and fairest form of such a levy, as conceived by an informal committee composed mainly of members of Parliament just before the close of the last session. Their proposal was," it explains, "that the death duties be regraduated, and that a national levy be made at the end of the year on all property subject to death duties, with an enhanced scale upon the very large fortunes and properties. The complaints of the working classes (embodied in the resolution of the Trade Unions Congress and recently submitted by Mr. Bonar Law) that conscription of wealth has not accompanied conscription of life would thus be met. Under the Military Service Acts conscription is enforced on all boys in England, Scotland, and Wales by a clause under which every person is deemed to be a soldier when he passes the age of eighteen."

Following this precedent—and we must remember that the conscription law was passed by Mr. Asquith's Government with the unanimous support of the Unionist members and of a majority of the Liberal and Labour party in the House of Commons—every person in the United Kingdom shall be deemed to have died on a certain date, and a payment of death duties shall be required of him within a certain period. Every person with property in the United Kingdom would be compelled to submit to financial death on, say, December 31st next. Payment should be permitted in Government securities, which could be cancelled on receipt of "drastic measures," says *Common Sense*, "would at least encourage a demand for better control of public finances and for a reduction of public waste in all directions."

## HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

**SPECIAL DUTY.**  
Twenty-one Constables, with Inspectors or Sergeants in charge, will be detailed by Warning Officer of No. 2 Company for duty between 2.45 p.m. and midnight at the Fair to be held on the Kowloon Cricket Ground on New Year's Day.

**MUSKETRY COURSE, PART I.**  
Staff Inspectors Watt and Taylor, P.-cs. 704 Weaver, 672 Henderson, 757 Yvanovich, 648 Silas, and all members on No. 2 Platoon who have not yet fired will attend the range on Sunday next, the 16th instant. Leave Blake Pier, 9 a.m. sharp, returning about 1 p.m.

**UNIFORM.**  
Members for whom orders for new uniform have been issued are directed to attend without delay at Noordin's for fitting. The last sentence of Departmental Order 64 is to be altered so as to read: "Uniform must be worn by defaulters when appearing before a Magistrate, Disciplinary Board, or any Superintendents."

**APPOINTMENT.**  
The Hon. Captain Superintendent of Police approves the appointment of Mr. T. F. Mough, A.S.P. (Reserve), to be Adjutant of the Police Reserve Force with effect from December 15th, 1917.

**STRENGTH.**  
P.-cs. 707 J. A. Pearson is invalided out as from this date.  
F. C. JENKIN, D.S.P. (R.).  
Hongkong, 14th December, 1917.

## ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE.

## HONGKONG AND CHINA DISTRICT.

## V.M.C.A. DIVISION.

On duty at the H.K.D.C. Camp.

## SAVING DIVISION.

Monday, 17th inst.:—

4.20 p.m. Recruit drill.

Wednesday, 19th inst.:—

2.30 p.m. Bandaging practice.

Thursday, 20th inst.:—

4.20 p.m. Recruit drill.

Saturday, 22nd inst.:—

2.30 p.m. Bandaging practice.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE DIVISION.

"A" Section.

Thursday, 20th inst.:—

1.20 p.m. Squad and stretcher drill.

Friday, 21st inst.:—

4.20 p.m. Squad and stretcher drill.

"B" Section.

Monday, 17th inst.:—

4.20 p.m. First aid class.

Tuesday, 18th inst.:—

1.20 p.m. Squad drill.

Thursday, 20th inst.:—

4.20 p.m. First aid class.

Friday, 21st inst.:—

1.20 p.m. Squad drill.

(Sgd.) E. BARNES,  
District Supt. in Charge of District.  
Hongkong, December 15th, 1917.

## HONGKONG SHARE MARKET.

Messrs. Vernon & Smyth, in their weekly share report dated December 14th, 1917, state:—

Since our last report of 7th December, our local market has been quiet, with the exception of Indo-China Deferred shares, in which a large business has been done, as detailed below. At the close, there seems a more general demand for other shares and we look for a larger volume of business before long. Investment stocks still remain very quiet, with but little business passing. Shanghai market improved early in the week, but closed rather dull and heavy. Singapore market for Rubber shares has been very quiet and uninteresting.

The following are our to-day's wired quotations:—

Alor Gajahs	.....\$ 4.45
Ayer Pans	.....11.70
Glenclyns	.....2.50
Kedahs	.....4.00
Kempas	.....9.00
Malaka Pindas	.....2.35
Malakoffs	.....4.50
New Serendahs	.....4.50
Sandicrolts	.....4.50
Tapahs	.....21.00

Plantation Rubber in London is quoted 2/4 per lb. Bar Silver is quoted 42 1/2.

Sterling T. T. is 2/11 1/2. Singapore T. T. is 196 1/2. Shanghai T. T. is nominal at about 60 and the Bank's buying rate for 3d. Bills is nominal at about 60 1/2.

**BANKS.**—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have further weakened and sales have been made at \$800 and further shares are available at the rate.

**MARINE INSURANCES.**—Unions have been done at \$735 and there are now buyers at \$730. Customs are rather lower, and are on offer at \$300. North Chinese are quoted from the North at Tls. 115 buyers and Yangtses at \$205 at exchange 73 nominal.

**FIRE INSURANCES.**—China Fires, in sympathy with Unions, have declined to a buying rate of \$121. Hongkong Fires are unaltered at \$310 nominal.

**SHIPPING.**—Indo-China Deferred have been the medium of a very large business and have shown the usual wide fluctuations. Early in the week sales were made down to \$141 cash, and correspondingly rates forward. This was succeeded by a sharp recovery, and we close with buyers at \$140 for cash, \$151 January, \$153 February, and \$155 March. Douglases have been neglected, and price is unaltered, with shares on offer at \$78. Steamboats have been very quiet, and shares are obtainable at \$18. Star Ferries are nominal at \$23 1/2.

**COIN.**—Shells are wanted at 132/-, but no shares are available at the rate. Langkats and Ural Caspians are nominal at Tls. 15 and 20/- respectively.

**LIQUIDITIES.**—This market has shown a little more life, and China Sugars, after business at \$80 and \$83, are now wanted at \$90 cash. Malabons have come to business at \$35 and \$36, and more shares could probably be placed at the latter rate.

**MINING.**—Rants are \$2 1/2 nominal. Kailans are on offer at 40/-, Trenchis are nominal at 25/-.

**DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.**—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been quiet and have been sold down to \$121, at which they close, with buyers. Kowloon Wharves gradually declined to \$90, which was the lowest price touched, since which the market has shown a sharp recovery to a buying rate of \$93; and Shanghai Docks are unchanged at Tls. 73, at which they can be placed.

**LAND, HOUSES AND BUILDINGS.**—Market has been firm, but only a small business has been done. Hotels and Centrals can be placed at \$60. Lands have come to business at \$60, and there are further buyers. Humphreys are nominal at \$51, as are West Points at \$51, after sales at the rate.

**COTTON MILLS.**—Market improved in the early part of the week, but closed below the best, with sellers of Ewos at Tls. 176, Shanghai Cottons at Tls. 120, and Orientals at Tls. 40, Yangtses are nominal at Tls. 6.80 and Kung Yiks at Tls. 15.80.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**—Only a small business has been done in this section. A few comments were put through at \$7.50, and there are further sellers. There are buyers of China Bonuses at \$61, of China Lights at \$64, and Providents at \$71. Tramways are on offer at \$6.50. Watsons at \$6.60, and Ropes at \$29. Dairy Farms are wanted at \$35, and Electric at \$48. Waterboats can be had in small quantities at \$12. Hongkong Steels have come to business at \$10.00.

**MEMO.**—Next Settlement Day, 21st December.

## THE BRITISH AND FRENCH HARVESTS.

Accounts of the British harvest, now that it is in, differ considerably according to localities. Those from the Eastern Counties are decidedly poor, and making allowances for the pessimism of farmers, it is to be feared that the wheat crop is decidedly below average. Unfortunately in the case of France there is no room for doubt or qualification. The harvest is notoriously bad; a Minister has described it in the Chamber as the worst for half a century. Want of labour is probably as much responsible as the weather for this unfortunate result, which brings about a serious position for the country. The Government is taking early measures to meet the difficulty such as the mobilising of all shipping under the Director of Maritime Transport so as to have as much tonnage as possible available for indispensable imports, while the importation of cereals is to be further cut down. Even the sugar allowance is to be reduced by a third (bringing it down to about 17 oz. per head per month) to give increased opportunity for the carriage of wheat. The bread ration is to be reduced, but the quality improved. On the other hand the meat position is good and the Minister was able to announce the abolition of meatless days.

## SPORT.

## CRICKET.

The rain during the last two days has been very welcome as far as the condition of the various Cricket Grounds is concerned, and given good weather to-day, true wickets should be found all round.

In the League Competition the Chinese Recreation Club will entertain Kowloon, who are putting out a very strong eleven. If the C.R.C. are to get their visitors out at all they will require to give a much better show in the field than they have done for the last two or three weeks, and with Cobb, Stalker and Pestonji bowling, Ng Sze Kwong and his club-mates will require to be at the top of their form. On paper Kowloon look able to win comfortably.

Craigengower are at home to the Royal Engineers, and here we should have a close match, with the bowling on both sides better than the batting.

On the last occasion that these sides met the Sappers only succeeded in compiling 37 and their opponents 63, but both sides have improved considerably and to-day ought to see many more runs scored.

There are two friendly matches: Hongkong v. University on the Club Ground and Civil Service v. the Navy on the Civil Service Ground. Both games ought to provide close results, though the teams are handicapped by members being at Camp.

## TO-DAY'S MATCHES.

## LEAGUE.

C.R.C. v. Kowloon.

Craigengower v. R.E.

## FRIENDLY.

Hongkong v. University.

Civil Service v. Navy.

## CHINESE RECREATION CLUB v. KOWLOON.

The following will represent the Chinese Recreation Club in their league match against Kowloon C.C. at Causeway Bay to-day at 2.15 p.m.:—Ng Sze Kwong (Capt.), Ng Sze Yuen, Un Hew Fan, H. Ching, Wong Kwok Kwong, Ho Wing King, Yew Man Chun, G. Lee, Wong Po Keung, Kwok Shiu Yan, and Wei Leo San.

## CHAIKENGOWER v. R. ENGINEERS.

The league fixture will be played to-day on the Craigengower Ground at 2 p.m. The home team will consist of:—J. S. Graham, A. H. Grimmett, L. A. Ross, J. D. Neria, F. G. Thompson, A. Rapp, D. K. Kharas, C. Sara, S. Jex, V. H. Abbas and R. Basa.

## CIVIL SERVICE v. THE NAVY.

The following will represent the Civil Service C.C. in their "friendly" match at home against the Navy to-day at 2 p.m.:—E. W. Hamilton (Capt.), O. O. Woodman, S. E. Alderman, C. M. W. Reynolds, W. J. Woolley, W. H. Edmonds, J. C. C. Fletcher, W. Dixon, F. J. Ling, J. E. Hamilton, and P. T. Lambe.

## ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

## TO-DAY'S MATCHES.

## UNITED SERVICES' LEAGUE.

H.K.D.C. v. Middlesex Regt.—Club Ground. Kick-off, 4 p.m. Referee, Mr. Wright. The Middlesex Regiment will be represented by:—Turner, Fisher and Fawthrop, Allen, Fawcett and Pacey; Serrotron, Jarvis, Lt. Sayers, Watts and Walden.

## DIVISION II.

Staff and Depts. v. Kowloon—Navy Ground. Kick-off, 4 p.m. Referee, Mr. Pugh.  
Royal Engineers Res. v. St. Joseph's College—Club Ground. Kick-off, 2.30 p.m. Referee, Mr. Diskenson.

## DIVISION II. LEAGUE TABLE TO DATE

Club.	P	W	L	D	F	A	P.
8th Co. ....	2	4	1	1	13	5	9
S. C. Athletic. 4	3	1	0	8	2	6	
87th Co. ....	5	3	2	0	9	8	6
R.E. Res. ....	6	2	2	2	13	12	6
St. Joseph's ...	4	2	2	0	6	7	4
3rd Co. ....	4	1	2	1	7	9	3
Kowloon ....	4	1	2	1	5	10	3
Middlesex Res. 3	0	1	2	5	8	2	
Staff & Depts. 4	0	3	1	1	9	1	

## BILLIARDS.

## SOLDIERS' CLUB TOURNAMENT.

Two even games were played in this tournament at the Soldiers' Club on Thursday night, the Defence Corps winning the first and the Police the second.

Seppies:—

K.K.D.C. (Sgt. Messrs). H.K.P. & WARDERS.

Sergt. Budge...250 Sergt. Cooper...246

Sgt. S. Green...176 Insp. Brown...250



THE NEW PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT.  
PROCLAMATIONS.

The *Boletim Oficial* of Macao, dated the 13th instant, contains the following telegrams from Lisbon, dated December 12th, to the Governor of Macao:—

The *Diario Governo* to-day publishes the following decrees by the Revolutionary Committee deposing the President of the Republic and determining his residence outside the national territory, dismissing the Ministers, and appointing a new Cabinet consisting of:—

President and Minister of War and Foreign Affairs:—Sidonio Pais.  
Interior:—Machado Santos.  
Justice:—Moura Pinto.  
Finance:—Santos Viegas.  
Marine:—Aresta Branco.  
Commerce:—Xavier Esteves.  
Colonies:—Tamagnini Barbosa.  
Instruction:—Alfredo Magalhães.  
Works:—Feliciano da Costa.

Senhor Tamagnini Barbosa, the new Minister for the Colonies, is Mr. João Tamagnini Barbosa. He was born at Macao, where he received his early education. He is a son of a former Colonial Treasurer at Macao, the late Conselheiro Tamagnini Barbosa. The new Minister is only thirty-four years of age, and is an Engineer in the Artillery Company. He was at one time Director of Public Works in Lourenço Marques, and was also President of the Municipal Council in that city. Until the Revolution broke out he was Deputy for Mozambique. By those who know him he is reported to be a young man of exceptional talents. It was he, with Dr. Vasconcelos e Sá, who defended the late Governor Maia, of Macao, in the Portuguese Parliament against the attacks of Deputy Velhinho Correia and of Senator Gonçalves Pereira. The speeches of both these Ministers on the occasion of the debate in the Portuguese Parliament, especially that of Senhor Barbosa, were very eloquent and convincing in their arguments. Senhor Barbosa is well-known to many at Hongkong and at Macao.

The following is the text of the Proclamations issued by the Revolutionary Committee and telegraphed to the Governor of Macao:—

Citizens! The Republic has triumphed against Demagogy. It is, therefore, indispensable that all the citizens should return to their lowest labours, as every citizen is an element of order. The Revolution had in view a complete restoration of justice and law and, having been armed against the abuse of power, now wishes nothing more but tranquillity and a return to normal activities. And, having the necessary moral authority to attain these elements of national peace, it has the strength to make them effective. Citizens! The Revolution was carried out in the name of Liberty against Tyranny, and true Liberty requires calmness, respect for life and property, and confidence in authority. Long Live the Republic!

Lisbon, Edward the Seventh Park, December 8th, 1917.

The Commandant of the Revolutionary Forces: SIDONIO PAIS.

The people and the Revolutionary Forces, both Naval and Military, in the name of the Fatherland and Republic, wish, at once to restore order and the continuation of the national institutions that the Portuguese people of their own free will chose on October 5th, 1910, proclaim in the name of the nation the following Revolutionary Committee, which will, in the shortest possible space of time, and over its mandate to a new Government constituted in accordance with the national aspirations:—

President, Sidonio Bernardino Cardoso Silva. Members of Committee: Antonio Maria Azevedo Machado Santos and Joao Feliciano Costa, Junior.

Citizens! The Revolution that represents the Republic so generously proclaimed on the 5th of October, 1910, and which was so miserably betrayed by a political coterie which audaciously seized the reins of Government and exploited their position for their own benefit and to the detriment of the country, has triumphed, but the carrying out of justice and the honest and impartial administration of law, order and authority belong to those who risked their lives for the Fatherland and the Republic. The Revolutionary Committee assumes the reins of power, fully conscious of the gravity of the situation. In order to guarantee the existence of the Republic, assisted by an expression of the national will in order to maintain order and law and enforce respect for life and property, at the same time respecting and enforcing respect for all international treaties contracted for the nation, the Revolutionary Committee will also endeavour to restore the harmony and unity of the Fatherland. Long live the Fatherland! Long live the Republic!

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

CORRESPONDENCE.  
CHINESE GENEROSITY.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Sir,—In connection with a recent public question which, it may be hoped, has been shelved for good, there was a manifest disposition to attribute to the Chinese of Hongkong a spirit of pique which is not their national trait. I yield to none in my admiration of the Chinese sense of "sweet reasonableness"; hence, this recourse to your columns "to give the devil his due."

Not so long ago there appeared in the columns of the *Daily Press* a communication attributing to Chinese spite a seeming indifference to a very wide appeal in the cause of certain war-charities. If the matter had been carefully sifted, it would have been seen wherein the fault lay.

Now that Humanity's call is appealing in aid of the victims of the Halifax disaster, we find an immediate spontaneous response from the leading Chinese gentlemen in Hongkong. I have no doubt that others will follow their generous lead. There can be no direct, or even remote, benefit to accrue to them by helping to relieve the sufferers from the terrible catastrophe. It is simply an instinctive and humanitarian response prompted by that spirit of charity that is so admirable a characteristic of the Chinese living in our midst. This fact should be generally recognised.—Yours faithfully,

A FRIEND OF THE CHINESE.

Hongkong, 14th December, 1917.

[We do not think that the generous instincts of the Chinese have ever been questioned. It is well-known that the incident to which our correspondent refers was due to a complete misunderstanding. A full and early explanation was given to the leading members of the Chinese community, and that they accepted it without demur was shown by their financial contributions.—Ed., H.D.P.]

## AN IMPOSTER.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Sir,—With reference to the paragraph which appeared in your issue of to-day about an Indian youth who fraudulently represented himself as soliciting contributions for a bogus fete at Queen's College on behalf of war charities, I hope the Police will succeed in tracing the culprit and have him punished in a fitting manner.

In my opinion twelve strokes or more of the birch, inflicted on the delinquent would have a salutary effect, and serve as a deterrent to others from committing similar offences.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,

LOCAL INDIAN.

Hongkong, 14th December, 1917.

The Revolutionary Committee: Sidonio Pais, Machado des Santos, Feliciano Costa.

The following are the decrees issued by the Revolutionary Committee:—

The Revolutionary Committee, in the name of the Nation, decrees the following:—(1) The Congress of the Republic is dissolved; (2) In the shortest possible space of time the Government will convene the College of Electors, who will choose the representatives of the national sovereignty, with full power to revise the Constitution.

Article 1.—All persons who have been deprived of their liberty as a result of the political movement of December 13th, 1910, will be immediately released and all charges against them cancelled.

Article 2.—All individuals, civil or military, who, as a result of the above-mentioned movement, were dismissed from office or from the army, or suspended, shall be immediately reinstated and, for the purpose of promotion, all the past will be counted, and all bad reports in the military sheets will be cancelled and considered null and void, and all appointments made to fill their vacancies will be nullified.

Article 3.—The law No. 642 of December 1st, 1910, is hereby revoked.

Article 4.—All measures taken by the late Government against the free publication of newspapers are hereby revoked, and any order of expulsion from the territory of the Republic against any journalist is hereby annulled.

Article 5.—All punishments which were decreed by the late Government, under the pretext of the execution of the law separating the Church from the State, against Portuguese Prelates are hereby cancelled.

The Revolutionary Committee in the name of the nation decrees the following:—

Article 1.—All public officials shall resume their functions in all the different Ministries, and the Directors-General shall direct all the work in their respective offices.

Article 2.—All Under-Secretaries are hereby dismissed.

Article 3.—All public affairs remaining unsettled, including those which came under the charge of the Under-Secretaries, can only be decided by the Revolutionary Committee.—SIDONIO PAIS, President.

THE HALIFAX DISASTER.  
EFFECT OF AN EXPLOSION OF 4,000 TONS OF "T.N.T."

The recent terrible disaster at Halifax is an example, on a huge scale, of those tremendous forces, placed by science at our disposal, that, when improperly handled, may turn against their discoverers. At the same time it must cause many non-technical minds to speculate on the nature of the sudden chemical changes that are called "explosions" and cause such great damage to surrounding objects. The answer to this is to be found in the definition of explosives as being "such bodies as, in an extremely short time, and in a very small space, develop very large quantities of heat and gases, exerting enormous pressures upon the surrounding bodies, and are able, by the expansion of the highly heated gases, to perform a considerable amount of work."

Explosives are generally divided into two groups, viz:—

I. Low explosives: direct exploding materials.  
II. High explosives: indirect exploding materials.

Group I. includes all those that can be made to develop their force by direct means, such as ignition. To this group belong gun-powder, blasting powder, etc.

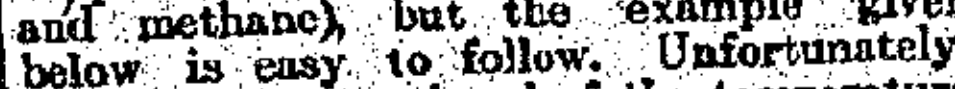
Group II. is made up of those which require an intermediate agent, such as a detonator, to cause them to explode properly. The detonator usually employed is fulminate of mercury, the substance contained in the copper caps of military and sporting cartridges, and also familiar to all residents in the Far East from its use in "throw-down" crackers.

Most "high" explosives are compounds produced by the action of the strongest nitric acid on carbon compounds, such as cotton, glycerine, etc. Those best known by name to the public are gun-cotton, dynamite, nitro-glycerine, picric acid and, latterly, tri-nitro-toluol. The list is very long and includes many different mixtures. In every instance the process of manufacture demands great technical skill and care, and may be carried out only under strictly enforced Government Regulations. No new explosive may be placed on the market unless it has passed an official test and has been licensed.

In the Halifax disaster the explosive was tri-nitro-toluol (or trotyl) which, although comparatively modern and not, until recently, familiar to "the man in the street," has been used for military purposes for several years on the Continent of Europe as well as in England. Into the technicalities of its manufacture there is no occasion to enter; it is enough to say that it is closely allied to picric acid—also known as lyddite. Both are prepared from coal-tar products—picric acid from carbolic acid, and tri-nitro-toluol from toluene. T.N.T., as it is often called, is slightly less powerful than lyddite, but this is an advantage for some purposes, as it does not reduce the shell in which it is fired to such small pieces as lyddite produces. T.N.T. has the further advantage of not attacking metals as lyddite does.

Under ordinary circumstances T.N.T. is quite safe to handle, and is stable under very varying atmospheric conditions. It is affected only quite locally by very strong percussion; indeed, a rifle bullet may be fired through a solid mass of it without causing an explosion. The usual method of filling a shell is to melt the explosive and pour it into the cavity. In view of these facts and that a detonator is required to produce an explosion it is not clear how the Halifax accident was caused, unless the munitions ship also carried some substance that acted as a detonator; the mere impact of the collision should not have been sufficient. In the absence of any information as to whether the T.N.T. was present as loaded shells, the only explanation that seems feasible is that fire was a contributing cause.

When substances such as T.N.T. explode, the volume of the gases produced is, even at ordinary temperatures, over a thousand times the volume of the solid explosive, and at the tremendous temperature produced by the chemical change this huge increase of volume is multiplied many times. Even for a given explosive the composition of the gases produced is liable to vary according to actual circumstances, but, for illustration, it is interesting to consider an explosion of T.N.T. when the chemical change is of the least complex character. Other substances are, or may be, produced (e.g., hydrogen, carbon dioxide, and methane), but the example given below is easy to follow. Unfortunately, no detail is at hand of the temperature of the explosion in the case of the T.N.T., but it is fair to assume, for the present purpose, that it is approximately that of the gases produced by its relative lyddite. In the case under consideration, steam, as nitrogen, carbon monoxide, and steam, as gases; also solid carbon in the form of dense black smoke, according to the following equation, which may interest some readers:—



It may be mentioned that chemical equations, such as the above, enable calculations to be made as to the volume and weight of the gases and solids involved. In this instance we find that 1 lb. of T.N.T. yields 11.84 cubic feet of mixed gases, and one cubic foot (100 lbs. almost) of T.N.T. yields 134 cubic feet at standard temperature (0°C.). Assuming 2400°C. the figure given by one authority as the temperature of the gases produced, when lyddite explodes, as being equally true for T.N.T. (and it is audaciously so for our argument), this volume

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

## HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

## ALLEGED THEFT OF FILTER BAGS.

A Chinese was charged with stealing four filter bags from Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s Sugar Refinery.

An Indian watchman said he noticed the defendant coming out of the gates, and on searching him, found the sacks concealed under his coat. On the way to the Police Station a struggle ensued, defendant attempting to escape.

Defendant stated that the watchman promised to let him off if he paid thirty cents. Defendant gave him the money, but the watchman did not carry out his promise.

Mr. J. R. Wood remanded the case till to-day.

## RESULT OF A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION.

A Chinese was charged with cutting and wounding another Chinese on Thursday.

Inspector Gordon stated that the defendant is an assistant foreman at a godown. Over some slight difference of opinion the defendant quarrelled with complainant, and cut him on the head.

The complainant had to be sent to the Government Civil Hospital, where twelve stitches were put in. Witness found it difficult to obtain sufficient evidence for the complainant, owing to the position held by defendant, all witnesses taking the defendant's side. He asked for a remand.

Mr. Dyer Ball remanded the case until Monday, fixing bail at \$50.

## OPIUM PROSECUTIONS.

A Chinese was charged with the unlawful possession of 10 taels of opium.

Defendant said a friend gave him a parcel at Swatow to bring to Hongkong. He was unaware it contained opium.

A Revenue Officer stated that while on duty near Lung Wong wharf he noticed a quantity of luggage on the wharf. He searched it, and found the opium in a bag, which defendant claimed as his.

Mr. J. R. Wood fined defendant \$1,000, with the alternative of four months' hard labour, and ordered the opium to be confiscated.

Another Chinese, charged with the unlawful possession of 9 taels of opium, was fined \$75; in default, a month's hard labour.

## A CHINESE STOWAWAY.

A Chinese youth was charged with attempting to stow away on a steamer bound for Singapore.

Sergeant Willis stated that at 11 a.m. on the 13th instant, while 2,000 emigrants were being embarked on board a steamer in harbour, a *lukong* informed him that there was a stowaway on board. Defendant was found in the after part of the ship, in the place known as the telescopic ventilator. He had no ticket with him.

On being arrested, defendant said he had some luggage, which he wanted taken ashore. On a search being made, a wooden box containing a quantity of gambling gear was found.

Defendant said he paid a visit to the steamer and was walking about when he fell into a hole. The sergeant extricated him from his uncomfortable position and then arrested him.

Mr. J. R. Wood remanded the case till to-day.

## THE MURDER OF AN AMAH

## TWO COAL COOLIES ARRESTED.

It will be remembered that on the 28th of last month, an amah, employed by Mr. N. Jeremiah of No. 99, Praya East, was found in the house at mid-day strangled, gagged, and tied by the hands and feet. The Police have now been successful in tracing the alleged murderers.

At the Magistracy last evening, before Mr. Dyer Ball, two coal-coolies were produced by Inspector Terrett and charged with the murder.

Mr. Dyer Ball remanded the case.

must be increased about 9.9 times, so that one cubic foot of the explosive yields nearly 12,000 times its volume of intensely heated gas in an extremely short space of time. According to the telegrams published in this Colony the munitions ship carried 4,000 tons of T.N.T.—probably "short tons" of 2,000 lbs. each, as it was an American cargo, in which case the explosive would measure 80,000 cubic feet, and on explosion, would generate nearly a thousand million cubic feet of gas. Such an enormous volume is far beyond our grasp, but, if the round figure is taken, it would cover a square mile with a layer of gas nearly thirty-six feet deep. Under any conditions such an accident would be terrible, but in the narrow waters of Halifax, shut in by its hills, the effect would be intensified, and we can feel no surprise that the results have been so awful. In addition to its effect on living beings the tremendous shock would shatter houses, and break gas pipes, etc., thus starting a number of fires and the explosion itself would be accompanied by a huge sheet, or sheets, of flame.

## INTIMATIONS

NO BETTER VALUE

IN

XMAS GIFTS

IS OBTAINABLE THAN IN  
THOSE SHOWN BY

LANE, CRAWFORD

& COMPANY,

WHICH ARE OF THE HIGHEST  
QUALITY AND YET OF LOW PRICE.

A VISIT TO OUR STORE WILL PROVE THAT  
THERE IS NO NEED TO BUY OTHER THAN

BRITISH GOODS  
FOR YOUR GIFTS.

SHERWIN-WILLIAMS

PAINTS & VARNISHES.

S.W.P.—PREPARED PAINT.

FLAT-TONE—A flat oil paint for interior decoration.

CONCRETE FINISH—The ideal paint for concrete and plaster walls.

WORLD BRAND ZINC—28 lb. pails.

"OLD DUTCH" ENAMEL.

Colour cards and information on application.



Andersen, Meyer & Co., Ltd.,  
Sole Agents.  
Hotel Mansions. Telephone 1990.



Wm. Powell Ltd  
TELEPHONE 346

A  
Large Variety  
of  
Xmas Presents.

Fancy Bags, Hdkfs., Pincushions, Fitted Work Bags,  
Sachets, Ententeas, Silk and Wool Scarves,  
Handsome Fur Sets.

Children's

Wool Jackets, Wool and Silk Shoes, Toilet Sets, etc.



## NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

## FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF HONGKONG.

## BANK HOLIDAY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all FIRE INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of PUBLIC BUSINESS TO-DAY (SATURDAY), the 15th inst.

By Order,

A. R. LOWE,  
Secretary.  
[1384]

## MARINE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF HONGKONG.

## BANK HOLIDAY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all MARINE INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of PUBLIC BUSINESS TO-DAY (SATURDAY), the 15th inst.

By Order,

A. R. LOWE,  
Secretary.  
[1385]

## UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LTD.

THE CERTIFICATE No. 4100 for Fourteen Shares No. 1346/1347 in the name of MARY SAMUEL PERRY has been LOST or STOLEN, and if at the expiration of One Month from the date hereof the above documents be not forthcoming, another Certificate for the said Shares will be issued by the Society and thereafter no other will be acknowledged.

C. MONTAGUE EDE,  
General Manager.  
Hongkong, 15th December, 1917. [1386]

## THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LIMITED.

BEFORE purchasing ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES for use in connection with the Company's supply, Consumers are recommended to communicate with the undersigned with a view to ascertaining—

1. If the Appliances, and their use, are in accordance with the Company's Regulations.
2. If the Wiring of the premises, where it is intended to install such Appliances, is suitable.

It is important that the foregoing information should be obtained from the Company, as not only does the neglect to do so endanger property by fire, but in addition may lead to a contravention of the Ordinance.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,  
Agents.  
[1387]

## LOST.

MOUNTAIN PEN, between Matilda Hospital and Upper Peak Tram Station, on Tram, or between the Lower Peak Tram Station and the Hongkong Club.

Reward on returning to  
Dr. SANDERS,  
Matilda Hospital.  
[1389]

## STRAITS MERCHANT SERVICE GUILD.

DISPENSARY Building, Raffles Place, Singapore, are HONORARY AGENTS of the STRAITS MERCHANT SERVICE GUILD, where subscription are received, new Members are enrolled and all Members are welcomed as Visitors during their stay in port.

[1388]

## NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM LOBE AND M JJI.

## THE Steamship

## "BANCA."

Having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods will be delivered from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge will be landed at Consignees' risk and expense, into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by  
DAVID SASSOON & CO., LTD.  
Agents.  
Hongkong, 14th December, 1917. [124]

## HONGKONG ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED.

OWING TO ALTERATIONS and REPAIRS at the Power Station the Supply of ELECTRICITY will be SHUT OFF TO-MORROW (SUNDAY), the 16th inst., from 7.30 A.M. to 1.30 P.M.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,  
Agents.  
[1381]

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. NOTIFICATION.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that on the 8th January, at 3 P.M., at the PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, and before a Committee presided by the Engineer Director of the Public Works, tenders will be received for the contract of "ERECTION OF A BUILDING FOR THE COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE."

The conditions of the tendering, the specifications and the Plans of the Building are open to the Public at the Public Works Department and in the PORTUGUESE CONSULATE in Hongkong, where they can be examined all week days.

Macao, Public Works Department, 6th December, 1917.  
HAUL M. DE FARIA & MAIA,  
Engineer Director.  
[1382]

## INTIMATIONS

## NOTICE.

THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that DELIVERY ORDER No. 2210 to our order covering two hundred steel plates ex s.s. "Thornd" arrived from Seattle on the 7th day of November, 1917 has been LOST and is now Cancelled.

MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA, LTD.  
Hongkong, 13th December, 1917. [1379]

## HONGKONG GOVERNMENT 6% WAR LOAN 1916.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that SHIP CERTIFICATES may now be exchanged for definitive Bonds. Scrip Certificates should be handed in at the Hongkong Office of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION and Bonds of the same denominations will be issued in exchange.

E. D. C. WOLFE,  
Colonial Treasurer.  
Hongkong, 10th December, 1917. [1370]

## 4% FRENCH LOAN.

(Rente Perpetuelle 4%).

THE BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE begs to announce that, to ensure the arrival of applications in Paris before December 16th, they will telegraph a first list of subscriptions from here on the 15th inst.

Intending subscribers are therefore invited to apply without delay.

Issue Price: 68.60

All applications from Foreign Countries will be allotted in full. Further particulars on application to the

BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE,  
5, Charter Road. [1280]

## 4% FRENCH GOVERNMENT LOAN 1917.

Price of Issue Frs. 68.60.  
Bearing interest from the 16th Dec., 1917, payable quarterly.  
Free of Taxes.

Not to be redeemed for 25 years.  
Subscription List will be Closed on the 12th December, 1917.

Bills and Bonds of the "National Defence" bought before the 1st November, 1917, are accepted in payment.

Applications will be received by:  
THE BANQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE,  
where full particulars may be obtained.

I. BERINDOAGUE,  
Manager.  
Hongkong, 9th November, 1917. [1383]

## CENTRAL BUREAU OF LIQUIDATION OF THE DEUTSCH-ASIATISCHE BANK IN CHINA.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that under instructions from the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China, the business in China of the DEUTSCH-ASIATISCHE BANK has been placed in Liquidation.

And all Parties of Chinese, Allied and Neutral nationalities having Claims against the said Bank in Canton are hereby required to notify the Canton Bureau of Liquidation of their Claims, within one month from this date.

AND NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN, that all Parties indebted to the said Bank must discharge their liabilities within one month from this date, after which period the Central Bureau of Liquidation will take such action as may be necessary.

LOCAL BUREAU OF LIQUIDATION OF THE DEUTSCH-ASIATISCHE BANK, CANTON.

Canton, 1st December, 1917. [1338]

## WANTED.

BOOK-KEEPER, capable of Keeping D/E Books, and to Assist with Correspondence. Good Knowledge of English Essential. State experience and Salary required to

Box 14,  
Care of "Daily Press" Office.  
[1393]

## FOR SALE.

AS a going concern, well appointed RETAIL STORE in Outport. For particulars apply to—

Box No. 109,  
Care of "Daily Press" Office.  
[1374]

## INTIMATIONS

## WINES AND SPIRITS

## ASSORTED CASES FOR XMAS.

## Case No. 1. \$22.00

- 1 Bot. St. Etienne Claret.
- 2 " Light Dry Sherry.
- 3 " Port, Full Bodied.
- 4 " Gin.
- 1 Bot. Superior Old Cognac.
- 1 " Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky "E" Quality.
- 1 " Dewar's Scotch Whisky.

## Case No. 2. \$28.00

- 1 Bot. St. Marceaux Champagne.
- 1 " Burgundy "Beauve."
- 2 Bot. St. Etienne Claret.
- 1 Bot. Light Dry Sherry, Sandeman's.
- 1 " Port, Superior Light Invalid.
- 1 " Superior Old Liqueur Cognac.
- 1 " Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky "E" Quality.
- 1 " Dewar's Scotch Whisky.
- 1 " Gin.
- 2 " Orange Curacao.

## Case No. 3. \$32.00

- 1 Bot. St. Marceaux Champagne.
- 1 " Old Brown Sherry "E.E." Quality.
- 2 Bot. Superior Old Port "D" Quality.
- 1 " Very Fine OLD BROWN Brandy "E" Quality.
- 1 " Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky "E" Quality.
- 1 " Kilby Liqueur Whisky (guaranteed 20 years old).
- 3 Bot. St. Julien Claret.
- 1 Bot. Gin.
- 2 " Orange Curacao.

## SPECIAL CASES PUT UP TO ORDER.

## A. S. WATSON &amp; CO., LTD.,

## WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

TELEPHONE 616

[13]

## MARRIAGE.

SOPHIE CLARK.—At Weidman, on December 1st, CHARLES HAWARD SOPHIE, of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Co., to ANNIE CATHERINE, elder daughter of Mr. DUNCAN CLARK.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VOUX ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 181, FLEET STREET, E.C.

## The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 15TH DECEMBER, 1917.

## THE FINANCIAL COST OF THE WAR.

APPARENTLY without the slightest demur the House of Commons has passed the Vote of Credit, introduced by Mr. BONAR LAW, for £450,000,000 and has thus furnished to the world another proof of the unity and determination of the British people boldly to meet any sacrifices that may be necessary to win the war. Only about six weeks have passed since the Chancellor of the Exchequer was granted a Vote of Credit for £400,000,000, which was expected to meet our requirements until January 9th. The average daily expenditure for sixty-three days preceding December 1st, however, was £2,794,000, or £1,393,000 a day more than anticipated. The total excess over the Budget estimate is given as £309,000,000, but as £225,000,000 of this is recoverable, the net daily excess works out at £250,000. So far as the Army's share is concerned the increased expenditure is mainly due to the recent successful offensives of our forces in France and Palestine, where there have been substantial gains to set on the opposite side of the account. Other contributory causes have been the extension of our aviation programme, which will meet with general approval; and the employment of a larger force in Mesopotamia, where brilliant successes have been achieved. In the meagre message to hand nothing is said of the advances made to our Allies, though the gratifying announcement is made that the requirements of the Dominions have not been greater than expected. At the end of October, Mr. BONAR LAW informed the House of Commons that the loans to our Allies and Dominions for the half-year ended on September 29th had exceeded the Budget estimate by

£61,500,000. From the beginning of the war down to the date mentioned the assistance which Great Britain had rendered in this direction amounted to £1,360,000,000. Of this prodigious sum only £160,000,000 went to the Dominions, which have patriotically contrived to a constantly increasing extent to pay their own way. These advances, however, will not be grudged by anyone who realises that it is our duty to help the common cause by this as by all other means. The money, after all, is merely a loan, and will eventually be repaid. Even in the case of Russia there is no reason, to despair, for, as Mr. BONAR LAW pointed out, no State has ever entirely repudiated its debts, and when, ultimately, a stable and responsible Government is established the need for financial assistance from other countries for the development of the nation's resources will compel acceptance of the outstanding liabilities. The National Debt, which at the outbreak of war was £245,000,000, had risen at the end of September to five billions. From this stupendous total, however, there were deductible various sums aggregating upwards of £1,300,000,000. Even so, the outlook is sufficiently serious, for the annual charge for interest alone—to say nothing of amortisation—will not fall far short of the cost of carrying on all the national services in pre-war days. Four years ago very few, if any, could have imagined it possible to carry the struggle to such unparalleled lengths. In the early part of the present century a well-known Russian economist, M. DE BLOCK, estimated that all the wars which had been waged in Europe from the Battle of Waterloo down to the end of the Russo-Turkish campaign had involved an outlay of £1,250,000,000, and he declared that no nation could bear the economic exhaustion which a general outbreak of hostilities would cause. Now Great Britain has expended something like four times the sum mentioned, and while it would be impossible for her to stand the strain indefinitely, Mr. BONAR LAW gave the assurance last September that want of money would not prevent us from winning the war, because we could stand the strain longer than our enemies. At that time the Reichstag had passed Votes of Credit amounting to £4,700,000,000, but these votes, unlike our own, did not include advances to Germany's allies or such items as separation allowances. Consequently, our war expenditure was £1,700,000,000 below that of Germany, whose increased taxation fell short by £25,000,000 of the interest on their debt.

To-day being a public holiday, the banks and insurance offices will be closed for the transaction of public business.

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending 1st December, 1917, amounted to 31,090 tons and the sales to 66,525 tons.

Telegraphic advice has been received by the local office of the China Mail Steamship Co., Ltd., that the s.s. *China* arrived at San Francisco on the 12th inst.

The Te Deum will be sung in St. John's Cathedral to-morrow (Sunday) (coming after evensong as an act of thanksgiving for the success of our arms in the capture of the sacred city of Jerusalem.

A Chinese, aged 45, has been admitted to the Government Civil Hospital suffering from multiple injuries, caused by some machinery falling on him while working in the China Sugar Refinery at East Point.

The Bishop of Victoria and family have moved down from the Peak and are now in residence at St. Paul's College. The Bishop will to-morrow (Sunday) conduct Divine Service at 12.30 at the Hongkong Defence Corps Camp, weather permitting. He will preach at St. Andrew's, Kowloon, at 4 p.m.

The No. 1 *joki* of a licensed trading junk has reported to the Police that, on the way to Shaikok from Hongkong with general cargo, his boat was attacked by five men off Tai Long Hau Fong Bay. The men were armed with rifles and knives, and forced the crew into the cabin. Taking possession of the junk they set sail for Fan Lo Kong, Chinese Territory, which was reached a few hours later. The men then took the cargo ashore by means of smaller craft which came alongside. The crew of the junk were released later and allowed to return to Hongkong. The loss is estimated at \$600.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals acknowledges with thanks the following donations to the funds of the hospitals: St. Stephen's College, \$168; China Congregational Church, \$19.14.

News has been received that the brother of Mr. Fletcher, of Queen's College, Lieut. A. W. Fletcher, of the Machine-gun Heavies (i.e., the Tank Corps), has received the Military Cross. He had previously been mentioned in despatches. Lieut. Fletcher has been on active service since the beginning of the war, in Gallipoli, in Egypt, and is now on the Western Front (says the *Tellow Dragon*).

Mr. N. J. Stabb, chief manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and Mr. E. J. Grist, of Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, returned to Shanghai at the close of last week from a brief holiday, devoted to a shooting trip near Wuhu, says the *N.C. Daily News* of the 10th inst. They report that the country is being terribly shag over by native pot-hunters, and the question is asked if the prohibition of the export of game cannot be speeded up.

## CLAIM AGAINST AN INSOLVENT ESTATE.

In the Summary Court, yesterday, before the Chief Justice (Sir William. Rees Davies), the Wing Hing Bank sued Liu Kwok Hing, as executor of the will of Liu Kam, alias Liu Young Tong, deceased, for \$1,000, being balance of principal due to the plaintiffs from the estate of the deceased on a promissory note for \$1,500, dated June 25th last, and given by one Liu Sheung Man to the plaintiffs, repayment of which sum was guaranteed by the estate.

Mr. Agassiz (of Messrs. Harding & Agassiz) appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. C. E. H. Beavis (of Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist) for the defendant.

Mr. Beavis said that the defendant had instructed him that the deceased's estate was insolvent and to make an application to the Court under section 627 of the Civil Procedure Code for direction as to the administration of the estate.

The Chief Justice—Have they got an attachment?

Mr. Agassiz—Yes, your lordship, I have brought an attachment. I don't see why my clients should be delayed in getting judgment. The judgment may be no good, but that is no reason why I should not get it.

The Chief Justice—I don't see why I should not give judgment. The creditors have got a remedy under the Bankruptcy Ordinance.

His lordship enquired of Mr. Beavis as to the section under which he applied for stay of execution.

Mr. Beavis—I apply under 627.

The Chief Justice—Yes, that is the ordinary section. I don't think it ought to interfere with the rights of creditors.

Mr. Beavis—There is just this question that occurs to me. The executor is liable if he pays debts of an inferior class when there are debts unpaid which may be entitled to priority. I will ask your lordship to stay judgment to enable the claims of other creditors to be considered.

Mr. Agassiz—I want judgment. I have taken steps and it was open to any creditor to do likewise.

The Chief Justice—I will give judgment with costs. A stay of execution is granted for seven days.

## NEW YEAR'S DAY FAIR.

The arrangements in connection with holding the Fair on the Kowloon Cricket Ground on 1st January, 1918, are going ahead with great rapidity, and, provided the weather is fine, it should prove a big day for Kowloon. It is to be hoped that there will be a good number of Hongkong residents present, including many prominent Chinese, whose support has been specially solicited in order to make the day a complete success.

The exhilarating fun to be obtained from a Fair with plenty of good novelties is well known to Hongkong, and Kowloon will not be behind in this respect. There will be the famous "Joy Wheel," "Shooting the Chute," "Aerial Flight," "Swing Boat," "Cannon Shot," "The Magic Ball," "Bible Range," "Love in a Tub," "Aunt Sally," "Caravan Wheel of Fortune," "Clock Golf," "Kicking the Football," and, last but not least, the famous Sam Isaacs (who has been specially sent out from home for the occasion) with his Fish and Chip Saloon which, it is stated, will be the last word in Piscatorial Cuisine. To gain admission to the ground the public must be in possession of the official badge, composed of ribbon of the Allies' colours. These can be obtained during the day, or at the entrance to the ground.

During the afternoon and evening, the specially designed 9-hole Golf Course will be open, and it is expected that many of the Colony's champion golfers will be seen participating in that royal and ancient game.

## THE HALIFAX CATASTROPHES HONGKONG'S EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY.

Yesterday, we received contributions amounting to \$285 towards the fund which is being raised by the Lord Mayor of London for the relief of the many thousands of sufferers by the terrific explosion which dealt death and destruction broadcast in Halifax, Nova Scotia, a few days ago. The subscriptions received to date are as follows:—

Already acknowledged ..... \$1,580 and £10

Messrs. Stewart Bros. .... 100

"Spero" ..... 50

Mr. and Mrs. Bowley ..... 50

W. N. .... 50

Mr. Wong Sin Woon ..... 10

"Cockney" ..... 5

Total ..... \$2,145 and £10

## FLING WIDE THE GATES OF LOVE AND CONSOLATION.

A week ago—a fair, far town lay smiling, In toil and rest serene; Within its homes, bright, cheery lights beguiling

To warmth the wintry scene— To-day Death's woe-filled horrors are desling Where Life and Joy have been.

Like summer bird, who knew no thought dismay, That winter winds might wield; Like flowers in corn, that dreamt not, in their playing, What strength the scythe might wield— The Reaper's hand, all ruthless, knew no staying When he swept across that field!

Almost we think we see the flames, swift flying, Weaving their dull, red pall— Almost we seem, from where the dead are lying, To hear each soul's last call— Almost we hear the little children crying— The bitterest sound of all!

We hear—and o'er the wails of desolation One whispering thought holds sway— Dear God! It might have swept, dread devastation, On us, and ours, to-day! Fling wide the gates of love and consolation And help them on their way!

Hongkong, December 14th, 1917. G. J.

## CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

## MANDATE TO STOP FIGHTING.

PEKING, December 14th. The mandate to stop fighting has been drafted, but its publication has been postponed.

Mok Ching-yu and Li Hoo-chia have wired Peking demanding assistance, and the Government has urged Feng Yushiang and Luk Kien-chang to go to Fukien immediately.

## CANTON NEWS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

CANTON, December 14th.

UNTRUE REPORT. The report that the Kwang troops on the borders of the Province have been fighting with Annamese troops for three days is contradicted.

The Tuchun has denied that he has sent an ultimatum to the Tuchun of Fukien.

GENERAL LUNG. General Lung Chai-kwong assumed office as Inspector Commissioner of Kwangtung and Kwangsi in King Chow on the 10th inst. He states that he must obey the Government and establish peace and punish the mischief-makers.

SWATOW AFFAIRS. A message from Swatow state that the Tuchun of Fukien, on being informed that Canton troops had been dispatched to attack Fukien, ordered all his troops which he sent to assist Swatow to return at once to protect the Province.

It is reported that several district cities near Chiu-chow have been captured by Canton troops.

The attack on Swatow began yesterday. The gunboats at Canton have been ordered to go to Swatow.

FURTHER ASSISTANCE FOR HUNAN. It is reported that General Luk Wing-tung has decided to order Chan Ping-kwan, the ex-Tuchun, to lead the 2nd Army to assist Hunan. A despatch requesting supplies and ammunition has been sent to Canton.



# THE WAR.

## GERMANS ATTACK ON WESTERN FRONT.

### AUSTRO-GERMANS LOSE HEAVILY IN ITALIAN THEATRE.

### BRITISH TRIUMPH AT JERUSALEM.

#### TEUTONIC DREAM DISPELLED.

#### Bracco-Belgian Front.

##### LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

#### BRITISH FRONT.

##### BITTER FIGHTING.

LONDON, December 14th.

Reuter's Correspondent at Headquarters reports:—The Bavarian attack east of Bullecourt, mentioned last night, resulted in bitter fighting all day. The enemy retained possession of some of the early captured ground, but is encountering ceaseless and harassing fire in trying to dig himself under cover. The situation of the lost ground is such as not to afford any advantage.

A tremendous enemy bombardment blazed up this morning, and we thundered a reply, but nothing followed.

There are rumours that the struggle boiled up again in the afternoon, but no particulars have been received.

The Correspondent pays a warm tribute to our wonderful artillery firing in this sector, while the infantry dash is described as more reminiscent of football than on a battlefield with bombs.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

#### TWO ENEMY ATTACKS REPULSED.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—Accounts of yesterday's fighting show that the enemy, after heavy preparation, attacked from the north of our positions on the Hindenburg line to the east of Bullecourt and also on a wider front from the east and north-east against the angle of our trench lines, to the south of Biencourt-lez-Gagnicourt. We repelled both attacks with heavy enemy losses.

The enemy subsequently attacked on the latter front, penetrating the obliterated trenches at the apex of the angle.

We killed or took prisoners a few Germans reaching the trenches elsewhere.

There was local fighting throughout the day on a small portion of the trench in which the enemy gained a foothold, without change in the situation.

We repulsed raiders to the south-west of La Bassee and inflicted casualties as the result of patrol encounters, to the east of Zonnebeke.

#### GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, December 13th.

A wireless German official report states:—We captured several shelters eastward of Bullecourt.

The artillery duel between Moeuvres and Vendhuile increased in violence this morning.

#### ENEMY ATTACK REPULSED WITH HEAVY LOSS.

LONDON, December 13th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—The enemy this morning delivered a strong local attack on a mile front eastward of Bullecourt and succeeded on the right in entering a short length of front trench which formed a salient and had been demolished by the bombardment of the preceding attack.

At all other points the attack was repulsed with heavy loss to the enemy, many of whose dead are lying on our wire.

We captured a number of prisoners. The enemy's artillery was active in the area of attack and has also shown some activity southward of Lens in the neighbourhood of Armentières and at Mesennes.

As far as can be gathered, the Germans got a sort of footing in about 500 yards of our front-line trenches before the attack was arrested.

The artillery duel continued until 1.30, when it died down, but the constant rattle of machine-gunning suggests that fighting is still in progress. Quite possibly we are counter-attacking.

It seems reasonable to believe that the German achievement does not represent any complete scheme of operations.

#### PIERCE FIGHTING AT BULLECOURT.

Reuter's Correspondent at Headquarters this afternoon sends all available particulars of the determined German attack upon the sector east of Bullecourt shortly after dawn, but he says that owing to the staunchness of our troops this was reduced to the limits of the smallest success at the most.

The enemy selected for attack the elbow in the bend of our line between Bullecourt and Queant. After the Germans set up an intense bombardment, to which our artillery replied with a barrage, assaulting waves of Bavarian troops advanced in close formation, manifestly intending to overpower the defenders by sheer weight of numbers. Fierce fighting ensued, but it is too early to obtain details.

##### LATEST CABLES.

#### FRENCH FRONT.

#### BOMBS DROPPED ON DUNKIRK.

PARIS, December 14th.

A communiqué reports lively artillery firing on both banks of the Meuse.

Aeroplanes dropped bombs on Dunkirk, but there were no casualties.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

PARIS, December 13th.

A communiqué states:—Since the 10th inst. nine enemy aeroplanes were brought down. Our aeroplanes dropped 10,000 kilograms of explosives, especially on aerodromes at Colman and Scieletstadt, the depot at Logelbach, factories at Rombach and several railway stations. The results were effective.

#### Italian Front.

##### LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

#### ITALIANS FIGHTING FIERCELY.

#### TRENCHES RE-OCCUPIED.

LONDON, December 13th.

An Italian official report states:—We regained a great part of the trenches in the Col Della Berretta region, which we were unable to re-occupy on Tuesday.

We sanguinarily repulsed two violent attacks in the Calcinio Valley.

The enemy attacked in force eastward of the Brenta at midday, and the attack continued fiercely throughout the afternoon, but ceased at night owing to the heavy enemy losses.

A powerful attack at Caldipo and Pappetex broke down.

#### AUSTRIAN CLAIMS.

A wireless Austrian official report states:—We captured in four days' fighting in the Melette region 630 officers, 14,000 men, 293 guns, 233 machine-guns, four quick-firing, 81 mine-throwers and other booty.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

#### ENEMY LOSSES FIFTY PER CENT.

LONDON, December 13th.

Reuter's Correspondent at Italian Headquarters states:—The enemy continues to mass troops and artillery in the Trentino, especially on both sides of the Brenta river.

Allied aircraft regularly bombard the Austro-German reinforcements, but fresh contingents continually fill up the gaps.

The enemy's artillery, which is overwhelmingly superior, destroyed Italian defences, and many of the defenders were killed, wounded or buried, but the survivors resisted so fiercely that the enemy's losses averaged fifty per cent. of his strength.

#### The Near East.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

#### THE JERUSALEM VICTORY.

#### TURKS' POWER AT AN END.

LONDON, December 13th.

The fall of Jerusalem forms the subject of leading articles in all the papers. The *Daily Graphic* says that whatever may be its purely military value, General Allenby's triumph in the capture of Jerusalem is an event that will thrill the imagination of the average man. It represents the most successful blow yet struck at what may be called the moral authority of the Turkish Empire. Following upon the declaration of independence by the Sherref of Mecca, the loss of Jerusalem means to the Turks a notification that their power as an imperial race is nearing an end.

The *Morning Post* says the capture of Jerusalem crowns a brilliantly conducted campaign, in which the credit is fairly due to all concerned. Jerusalem has fallen to good organisation, good generalship, and good fighting. The Russian Army in the Caucasus seems to be well affected towards the Allies and still occupies Armenia. We may even hope to see it basing itself between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea, drawing its support through the British line of communications from the Persian Gulf.

#### FAILURE OF GERMANY'S HOLY WAR.

The *Daily Chronicle* states:—Politically the fall of Jerusalem is an event of immeasurable importance. The entry of the British arms into Jerusalem following upon the ejection of the Ottoman Empire from the sacred cities of Hedjaz will resound throughout Islam. The German Press has foreseen this event and has done its best to depreciate its military importance. Of its tremendous importance as a political event, however, the German writers made no secret. It is a fact too patent to be denied that Germany's Pan-Islamic plan fell to the ground long ago, and that the Holy War was a failure from the start. What we are now witnessing is not merely the defeat of Berlin's ambitious design; it is the counter-offensive, and its effect will be as far-reaching against Berlin and its Turkish vassals as the original dream of a Teutonised Islam and the so-called free road to India was against us. The British Government will be faithful to its pledge to set up in Palestine a Jewish national home, but the terms of modern Zionism do not mean the fulfilment to injure the Moslems or Christian condition of Palestine, which calls not for rivalry but for the co-operation of all creeds and races which the Turks oppressed.

#### TEUTONIC DREAMS OF EMPIRE IN THE NEAR EAST.

LONDON, December 13th.

The *Daily Telegraph* says:—What consequences may flow from the fact that British troops are about to occupy the great citadel of David and Solomon we cannot yet tell. It is clear at all events that the Zionists are welcoming the possibility of a Jewish restoration to the Holy Land under British protection, but one thing is certain is that a heavy blow has been given to the Turkish Empire in one of

its most sensitive points, and the vague Teutonic dreams of a great extension of empire in the Near East have begun to melt away, dispelled by the British and Indian regiments and most efficient cavalry under the command of a brilliant General. No Teutonic development in Mesopotamia is possible unless Turkish rule is restored in Palestine.

#### JUSTICE FOR ALL.

The *Daily Mail* says:—True to their immemorial principles, the British have come to Jerusalem to maintain justice for all. Here, as in India, they will hold the balance even. Christians, Jews and Mohammedans, all have equal reason to rejoice at our arrival. For they all in the past have been cruelly sacrificed as pawns in the German game. All three races can hereafter work in unison under a just and sympathetic authority for a great future.

#### AN AUGURY OF DELIVERANCE.

The *Times* says:—Whilst the Germans have wantonly destroyed the noblest Christian churches on the false plea of military necessity, the British General delays his operations to save the sacred places in Jerusalem from accidental hurt. That is a warrant of the care which will certainly be taken to safeguard the rights and respect the susceptibilities of every faith. Priests and ministers of all communions who are not alien enemies may confidently rely upon the countenance of the conquerors. The fall of Jerusalem is a sign that the tyranny of the Turk is doomed and that the dawn of a new freedom is rising over his dominions. To all whom he oppresses, Greeks, Armenians, Arabs, Jews, and Syrians, it is an augury of deliverance.

#### MILITARY GOVERNOR APPOINTED.

Borton Pasha, Postmaster-General in Egypt, has been appointed Military Governor of Jerusalem.

#### Aerial Activities.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

#### BRUGES DOCKS BOMBED.

LONDON, December 13th.

The Admiralty announce that Naval aircraft bombed Bruges Docks on Tuesday night. The visibility was bad. One of our machines is missing. We brought down an enemy machine during our patrols.

#### Russian Front.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

#### RUSSIAN FRONT.

#### THE ROUMANIAN ARMISTICE.

LONDON, December 13th.

The text of the armistice on the Roumanian Front shows that the Roumanian Army observes the armistice so long as the Russian Armies on the Roumanian front do so.

#### General.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

#### THE GERMAN SILENT PENETRATION.

LONDON, December 13th.

The following concluding portion of Sir Edward Carson's speech was received too late for publication:—"There was no limit to what we could do by a proper league of British nations. He was not preaching the gospel of a boycott after the war. When it came to peace terms there would be time enough to talk of that. We ought to make it perfectly clear to Germany that the longer the war continues the less chance there is of her sharing in the much too short amount of raw material existing for reconstruction with devastated nations. He hoped no shipyards would be allowed to build ships for any country until the whole of our grievous losses were replaced."

#### DIRECTOR OF AIRCRAFT PRODUCTION.

LONDON, December 13th.

Sir William Weir has been appointed Director-General of Aircraft Production.

##### LATEST CABLES.

#### BRITISH SHIPBUILDING.

#### SPEECH BY SIR ERIC GEDDES.

LONDON, December 13th.

In the House of Commons, Sir Eric Geddes stated that since the Admiralty Controller was appointed in June the output of ships repaired in drydock was increased by 48 per cent., and of repairs abroad by 45 per cent. The repair and salvage organisation had proved so successful that it was being extended throughout the world.

Referring to shipbuilding, Sir Eric Geddes stated that if the output in December equalled the output in November, the British naval and mercantile tonnage completed in 1917 would equal that of the record year 1913, when 2,285,000 tons, of which 302,000 tons were naval, was built.

#### CONCRETE BARGES AND TUGS.

Mercantile tonnage was now being completed at the same rate as 1913, while the output in all classes of shipping in October and November was actually 18 per cent. higher than the rate of output in 1913, and the Government's plans provided for a still greater increase. Further augmentations of our mercantile tonnage was being arranged throughout the Allied world in concert with our Allies. We are making great experiments with 1,000 ton concrete barges and tugs, but not in larger ships.

#### ANTI-SUBMARINE WARSHIP CONSTRUCTION.

Sir Eric Geddes emphasised the necessity for developing anti-submarine warship construction, otherwise we should simply be sending out vessels to be torpedoed by an ever-increasing force of enemy submarines. A vast extension of shipbuilding facilities was necessary in order to successfully combat submarineism, and it was hoped to increase still further the output from the existing accommodation, but that was not enough, and private yards had been authorised to increase their accommodation by 45 new berths. Three new national yards were under construction, seven to be used for the construction of more highly standardised ships than have yet been undertaken. It was hoped to lay the first keel early next year. Thirty-four berths are being prepared, and prisoners of war would be employed. The total cost is estimated at £3,857,000.

#### SUBMARINES NOT YET MASTERED.

In summing up, Sir Eric Geddes said that the demands on our merchant shipping were greater than they had ever been in the war. The submarine menace was held, but was not yet mastered. Our shipbuilding was not yet replacing our losses, but both the downward trend in the sinkings and the upward curve of shipbuilding continued satisfactory. The latter would undoubtedly be maintained. The upward curve of the destruction of submarines continued equally satisfactory, and there was no reason to doubt that it would continue and gradually improve. If the country exercised rigorous economy and put forth all its powers to defeat submarineism, he had no fear of the result. Men and women were urgently needed for shipbuilding, and unless he entirely mistook the spirit of the country the response would demonstrate to the world that our grip tightened as the struggle continued. (Loud cheers.)

#### SUBMARINISM HAS REACHED WORST STAGE.

LONDON, December 14th.

Reuter's Agency learns from well-informed quarters that the Government know with certainty the German minimum submarine losses, also their maximum output. It is believed that the latter has been reached, and since the monthly losses of submarines are now approaching the monthly output, it seems that with the increasing means at the Allies' disposal the German programme of operations in 1918 cannot exceed what has already been applied. The situation calls for the exercise of the greatest economy in food, but it is justifiable to express the belief that the menace has reached its worst stage as an effective force. There is every reason to believe that the enemy submarine operations should not only be held in the near future, but should be gradually repressed, as our defensive work is neutralising the enemy output.

##### RUSSIAN

#### PROTECTION OF EXPENDITURE.

LONDON, December 13th.

The Maximalist decree also deprives the right to spend money at the cost of the State by a number of Russian diplomatic representatives abroad, including Ambassadors in Japan, China, Egypt, Siam, and the Consul-General in Korea.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

#### GENERAL NEWS.

PETROGRAD, December 13th.

The Bolshevik News Agency announces that in the event of the majority of the Constituent Assembly not favouring the authority of the Soviets, it is proposed to exclude such Constitutional Democrats, and also to hold re-elections because at many places the Constitutional Democrats suborned the Electoral Committees. The Bolshevik Commissioners have issued a proclamation concluding: "Down with the Bourgeoisie. There must be no place in the Constituent Assembly for landlords and capitalists!"

There have been further arrests of Cadet leaders.

#### GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, December 13th.

A wireless German official report states:—The negotiations regarding the armistice to replace the existing truce begin to-day at Prince Leopold's Headquarters.

#### CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OPEN.

PETROGRAD, December 13th.

The Mayor declared the Constituent Assembly open at the Taurida Palace, a handful of Cadets and Social Revolutionaries attending. They approved the text of a manifesto to the people.

The Assembly adjourned pending the arrival of a quorum.

#### KORNILOFF FORCES SUCCESSFUL.

LONDON, December 13th.

The *Morning Post* Correspondent at Petrograd reports:—It is not true that the Bolshevik forces were victorious at Bielgorod. Their attempt to intercept General Korniloff from proceeding to Novotcherkassk failed.

General Korniloff, on escaping to Bikhoff, ordered half-a-dozen Generals who escaped with him to separate and proceed to Novotcherkassk disguised as common soldiers, and they arrived safely.

General Korniloff in command of a force of 4,000 marched in campaign order through Russia. He was opposed at Bielgorod, where a small part of his force sent in advance was defeated, but the remainder took the Bolsheviks in the rear. The sailors broke and fled. Many soldiers joined General Korniloff, while the Red Guards were surrounded and handled in a drastic manner. It is expected that General Korniloff will soon join General Kaledin.

#### THE HALIFAX DISASTER.

##### DEAD AND HOMELESS.

LONDON, December 13th.

Sir R. Borden, who is at Halifax, has telegraphed to Ottawa that the dead will exceed 10,000 and the homeless 20,000.

##### CORRECTED REPORT.

It is officially announced from Halifax that so far the fatalities number 1,226. The error in Sir Robert Borden's figures was due to a telegraphic mistake.

#### HOLLAND THE ALLIES.

LONDON, December 13th.

In the House of Commons, Sir H. S. King drew attention to the renewed discussion in Holland concerning the possible intentions of the Allies regarding the future of rights over the Scheldt navigation and in Dutch territory.

Lord Robert Cecil replied:—There is not now, and there never has been, any intention to interfere in any way with the independence or integrity of Holland or her possessions.

#### WIRELESS INSTALLATION.

THE HAGUE, December 14th.

The Government has asked for a credit of five million florins for the erection by the Telefunken Co., Berlin, of a wireless station for communication between Holland and the Dutch Indies. The receiving installation will be ready in three months, and the sending installation in eighteen months.

(Continued on Page 4.)







# AN ECONOMIC BOYCOTT. CAMPAIGN GAINING ADHERENTS DAILY.

The German has not yet realised one effect of these continuous air raids. The Londoner is rapidly making up his mind that, not for many years, shall Germans have the free run of this great city. With that peculiar obtuseness, which is at once an asset and a drawback, the Hun vainly imagines that when peace is declared he will once more resume his residence here, and practise his trade. He should be undeceived on these matters.

The campaign for an economic boycott is gaining adherents day by day. Not only the Press, but business men, and all classes of the community are ready to welcome a determined declaration. It is time for the various Allied Governments to formulate their terms. The voluntary evacuation of territories occupied by Germany and her allies should take place within three months; for every succeeding month during which the Hun retains his so-called conquests, a year of boycott should be added. All vessels flying the German flag should be denied the use of our harbours and coaling stations for a term of years, which can be shortened on appeal. The most favoured nation clause in commercial treaties should be denied to the German. German merchants and bankers should be forbidden to trade in any Allied country, unless furnished with a licence to do so. For twenty years no German should be in an Allied country without a passport; the system of identity books should be retained, and the internment camp should remain in use for at least two years. Our naturalisation laws must be revised, and all naturalisation papers taken out in any Allied country since 1900 should not be valid without revision.

It is irksome to find ourselves contemplating measures of such severity, and a return to the old days of the *mare clausum*, but the German has put back the hands of the clock of progress. His country is an outlaw among the nations, and a dangerous outlaw. The Hun can only realise that we are in earnest, and they can only do so when the country is united upon its post-war policy. The most rabid of our Radical newspapers, the *Daily News* and the *Nation*, have both accepted the scheme of an economic boycott, but both have rejected the Paris Resolutions. For the next twenty years we must be firm, and I frankly mistrust my Radical friends. Germany could count on an attempt to mitigate the boycott from the journal which advocated avaricious neutrality, and from the editor who promised that he would ever be Germany's friend. I fear that in a few months the sacred cause of Free Trade would be revived, and this Empire would once again be made the victim of "peaceful penetration."

Is the Radical ready to disavow his Cobdenite tenets, and to come into line with the nation? If so, he should declare himself now, and abide by his present convictions. As long as the German feels that a powerful party is prepared to sacrifice the Empire to political gain, he will regard our scheme as a sham, and our declaration as a bugaboo.

There may be some difficulty with the United States. When the Paris Resolutions were framed, America was neutral; now she is an Ally, and a welcome Ally. Her blockade is to be conducted upon more rigid lines than ours: she has fewer neutrals to placate. As a Protectionist country she need have no hesitation in considering our suggestions, though President Wilson's reply to the Papal Note contained some phrases which repudiated a continuation of economic warfare. But the boycott is not warfare; it is a weapon to bring about a more speedy peace, and it is resigned in order to compass the desire of the President's heart, a consideration of peace terms on the part of the German people as distinct from their Government. Herr Ballin is aware that a Germany deprived of her overseas trade would count for little among the nations. Let him save his mercantile marine while there is yet time.

Whatever terms we impose upon Germany, their value should be brought home to the working man in this country. The cry of the "dear loaf" will be raised once more, but the advantages of a different policy should be expounded. One body of working-men is under no delusions. They go down to the sea in ships have already framed their own proposals, drastic but just. They refuse further truck with the sailors who have sullied the reputation of Germany's mercantile marine. Our captains will refuse to employ Germans; there will be no more German pilots with a licence to enter King's Lynn; there will be no more salutes for the German flag, and no assistance in carrying German goods. Every crime, contrary to the Hague Convention, committed after the passing of the resolution is to be punished by an extra period of economic control.

It is good reading when our most powerful and typical trade threatens to deal with the enemy in its own fashion. Our seamen are determined to treat the German as he should be treated, and they can carry the Government with them. The whole nation is at the back of these resolute men who have shown the finest spirit and have furnished one of the most glorious chapters in the history of the nation. They have faced hourly death from an enemy who has abandoned that free-masonry which the dangers of the deep called into being. They have lost their lives by unheeded barbarities, and their vessels have been

(Continued at foot of next column.)

# A CANADIAN TRIBUTE TO ENGLISH TROOPS. TERRIERS AND BULL-DOGS.

"I don't know how far back my family dates in Canada," said a Canadian soldier, "but I know that my grandfather was born there and his father before him. I reckoned that I'm a real Canadian, all right, and naturally I'm glad when I hear my own place cracked up. But I'm getting kind of sick at hearing the Canadians being praised to death, while the English troops get so little said about them. It isn't that our fellows don't fight all right, but when you get down to it, I reckon we don't fight any better than any other of the British troops. In a way, I know it's the fault of the English themselves that they don't get any advertisement. They're too quiet."

"It's the same over in France. If the English troops get a job to do, they just turn up the cuffs of their tunics, screw on their tin helmets a bit, and wait into it, sucking their teeth. They never seem to get hot up like us. We Canadians and the Australians always seem to know when we're in on a big scene, but the English troops play the same way all the time. You can put them into the most awful hole, give them the most heart-breaking job, and they just do the business in that same reflective sort of way, never realizing that they're doing anything out of the day's work. They're like nothing so much as a lot of terriers and bull-dogs for grit and patience."

QUIET AND BUSINESSLIKE.  
"That's the wonderful thing about the home troops: they've got the unbreakable limit for patience. I always like to see them clearing a Boche trench. They just go along it and clean out every funk-hole quiet and businesslike. If they've got to hold a bit of line against Boche counter-attacks, they'll hang on by the skin of their teeth. There isn't a length of the line they hold—why, the little bit that the overseas troops hold is only the tiniest little fraction of it. If you ask me, I say that the what you call 'English line regiments' are the backbone of the army, and its ribs, too. You can go where you like—France, Mesopotamia, Palestine, Egypt, Africa, Macedonia—and you'll find that the English are there doing the main part of the business in the same quiet, reflective kind of a way. No fuss; just quiet, patient work."

"I'm not running down my own crowd, mind you, or the Australians or New Zealanders or any of the overseas crush. They've shown what they can do, and there's no denying that they've got well; and I will say that they've got credit for it. When you think of all that the English fellows have done without making any noise about it in the Press, it makes you think that we get more than our share of praise. I tell you what it is, though. The English people are taken with the idea of us fellows coming all that way to fight—and it is kind of romantic, when you come to look at it—and they can't see the romance that's under their noses. It's always the way. People seldom see that their own brothers are worth while putting into a book—they're only old Jim or 'old Harry,' that's all, nothing particular about them."

"I once saw a couple of fellows have a scrap. One of them took off his jacket and rolled up his shirt sleeves—very impressive, just like a book. The other chap got rather white at that, but he just buttoned up his coat and stood quiet and square. He won, though the other fellow was the best scrapper. I always think of that chap when I see the English troops—only they can scrap, none better."

# THE STRENGTH OF FRANCE

In an official letter sent recently to the Under Secretary of State, Mr. Baker, M. Andre Tardieu, the French High Commissioner to the United States, vehemently denies the assertion that France has been "bled white." France, the Commissioner says, has 3,000,000 men at the front, an increase of a million since the war began, her reserve sources are sufficient to enable her to maintain that number up to its present level for a long time to come, and the percentage of casualties is constantly decreasing. French troops hold 382 miles on the Western front. At the beginning of the war France had 300 heavy guns, now she has 6,000. The munitions output in August, 1914, was arranged for 3,000 shots a day of 75's; it is now arranged for 250,000 shots of 75's and 100,000 of heavy guns. Besides this providing for her own needs, France, according to Mons. Tardieu, completely re-equipped the re-armed Belgian, Serbian and Greek Armies, and gave more than 500 heavy guns to her Allies. All this required the expenditure of more than \$13,500,000,000 in three years. While American soldiers, M. Tardieu concludes, will help by dealing the last blow at the adversary, they will find in France a country which, to-day as well as during the last three years, bears the principal exertion of the common foe, a country which maintains to the maximum of her power, without hesitation, and without weakness, her thoughts, her means, her will.

sunk without trace. Are we to ignore their demands, and deny them full compensation. Some months ago the phrase "ton for ton" was on everybody's lips, now it is rarely heard. Carried into practice, the "ton for ton" policy would form one of the handiest of our economic weapons. This Empire can hardly expect monetary reparation until the claims of Belgium and Serbia and Roumania are fully satisfied. But we have kept the debt for civilisation, we owe an overwhelming debt to our own sailors, and it must be repaid. Our losses amount to a thousand vessels each year, and for the sake of our commerce, and that of the world at large, we must restore our mercantile marine to its former state.

F. in Outlook.

# THE GERMAN PEACE ATTACK.

## VIEWS OF A SOLDIER FROM THE FRONT.

A soldier from the front writes in the *Morning Post*, of October 3rd: "The Hun is making a peace attack now; on a very wide front. The desperation with which he is pursuing peace is the desperation of the cornered rat."

Is it not quite plain that any kind of peace conference with armed Germany would be fraught with the greatest danger? Anything might be expected during the armistice, from an attempt to poison the negotiators and the Generals in the field to a scheme to burn down Paris and London. The German wild beast is at the present time pinned down, and our grip on its throat tightening. To relax the grip for any reason at all, in response to the most object of diplomatic representations, would be a mistake. Peace should be made in the field, for that will be the only safe method; and its one condition should be the simple one—that Germany should lay down her arms, withdraw within her own frontiers, and there await the result of a European Congress, at which she should have the same representation and the same fair play as a criminal before a British Court of Justice.

## WITHDRAWING FROM BELGIUM.

"Pacifist" sentiment in this country—i.e., the small body of German paid spies, reinforced by the smaller body of silly cranks—is being prepared at this moment to welcome with a waving of olive branches a "noble resolution" of Germany to offer to retire peacefully from Belgium and the North of France as a sign of goodwill. That is a dangerous rock ahead; for, perhaps, well-meaning and patriotic British citizens will see in such an offer evidence of the dawn of sweet reasonableness in the German mind. The truth is that, from a military point of view, we should be granting, not receiving, a favour if we allowed the German armies to withdraw now behind the Rhine in peace. Germany bluffs about the occupied territories as a "pawn" she holds. Well, against her pawn we hold a "rook" in the German Armies, who have been pushed into those territories and are now faced by stronger and victorious armies. It is not quite certain that we can destroy a large part of the German forces when they attempt to withdraw, but it is very probable. The situation can be best appreciated perhaps by the civilian mind if note is made of the wild hymns of praise in Germany over the masterly retreat of Hindenburg from the Somme last winter. Frankly, it was a fine performance; but after all, it was only a matter of getting out of a small salient. To withdraw the whole line in front of an aggressive superior army will call for genius of the highest order, and a great deal of luck. The chances are at least 10 to 1 that if and when Germany tries to withdraw she will be so thoroughly routed as to be destroyed from a military point of view. That is the conclusion of the war that the soldier foresees and prepares for now.

## "THE LAST LAP."

To borrow the phrase with which the *Morning Post* has summed up the position, this is the last lap of the long course. Germany, beaten in the field, wishes to transfer the contest now to another sphere, where the liar, the poisoner, the dynamite, the forger, can do his worst. It would be unwise to dispute her supremacy in that sphere, and criminal folly to allow her the change of venue. Let the British people and their Allies brace themselves to "stick it" for the months or weeks still remaining, and make up their minds absolutely, irrevocably, that there will be no Peace Conference with the German Army still in the field. A durable peace could not be negotiated in that fashion. We are very near to the fitting end, a German surrender in the field. Anything to prejudice that end is a treachery to civilisation.

## AIR RAIDS AND PEACE MOVES.

Some semi-public authorities (no doubt quite unwittingly) and a section of the Press (since it is mainly the section of the Press that used to be so friendly to Germany, perhaps not quite unwittingly) are helping the German peace offensive by the fuss that is being made over air raids on London. Whatever could be "com-against the old London attitude of "com-posure and darkness" it was better than the present attempt to work up hysteria. If people would keep in their houses during an air raid and those who find themselves in the street would take shelter—provided they can do so without neglect of duty—the chances of death or injury would be so infinitesimal as to be not worth considering. But the practice of packing "Tubes" and other places with frightened folk, who are while there at the mercy of a big tragedy. It will quite certainly advance infant mortality greatly, for a long spell in a "Tube" is enough to finish a frail young life. The London air raids are part of the Hun's peace policy, and if he can make London nervous he will have scored a point.

I see signs of a deliberate "working up" of nervousness. On Saturday night near Oxford Circus I encountered a man telling a group of people that "everybody had been hit" and "hundreds killed." He was of opinion that "everybody ought to leave London." I engaged him in conversation, and sought to keep him until I could see a policeman or an able-bodied soldier (unfortunately I am not just now in that category). But he suspected something, and slunk away. It is a duty that should be urged on good citizens to bring under arrest air-raid alarmists. Probably the bulk of the harvest would be just fools, but the lesson would do no harm, and there would be hope of bagging a few spies. I have been in London before "on leave" during Zeppelin and aeroplane raids, and was impressed and encouraged by the admirable spirit of the citizens. In those days they took just as little notice of Him-frightened as did Londoners at the front, and to note the sound old heart of the nation beating without a flurry was a cheering thing. There seems a deliberate and enemy-inspired effort to destroy that fine courage, and some journals are assisting it, with or without unpatriotic intent.

(COPY)

Office of the Commercial Attaché,

H. B. M. Consulate-General,

Shanghai.

Dear Mr. Dingle,

I am much obliged to you for letting me see a copy of the "New Atlas & Gazetteer of China." I think the collection in one volume of so many useful and interesting facts and figures concerning the geography, the natural resources, the trade and the industries of so vast a country as China is a remarkable achievement. Having some experience of the difficulties attending the collection of reliable and accurate data regarding "Things Chinese," I can well appreciate the immense amount of labour, energy and patience which you must have expended on your task. You have certainly succeeded in producing a work which will be of real use to all who are interested in the commercial and industrial development of China.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) HARRY H. FOX,

H. M. Commercial Attaché.

E. J. Dingle, Esq.

Editor,

The New Atlas & Gazetteer of China,

SHANGHAI.

The pre-publication sale of *The New Atlas and Commercial Gazetteer of China*, referred to in the above letter, closes on December 31, when our temporary introductory offer will be withdrawn and the price advanced. Orders or inquiries should be sent AT ONCE to The Secretary, North-China Daily News, 17, The Bund, Shanghai.

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